## COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ of producing hollow microporous particles in particular intended to be inhaled or any other application characterised in that:

- a composition is provided in a given form comprising at least one active principle and at least one expansion agent having an expansion coefficient greater than 5% and which has a volume after cooling below the solidification point which is greater than the volume before cooling,
- said composition is cooled at a temperature below the solidification point of said at least one expansion agent so as to increase the volume of the given form and to create fractures in the surface and/or in all of said given form, thereby enabling the structure of the hollow micro-porous particle to be obtained,
- all or part of said at least one expansion agent is removed.

2. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said composition in a given form is sprayed onto a cold medium having a temperature lower than said solidification point of said at least one expansion agent.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in in claim 1 ~~Claims 1 to 3~~, wherein said at least one expansion agent is selected from the group consisting of methanol, dichloromethane, acetone, and mixtures thereof.

5. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in claim 1 ~~Claims 1 to 3~~, wherein said at least one expansion agent is selected from the group of gas consisting of carbon dioxide, nitrogen, carbonate, bicarbonate, and carboxylic acid ~~and derivatives thereof~~.

6. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding Claims~~, wherein said active principle is selected from the group consisting of proteins, lipids, nucleic acid, short chain peptide, corticosteriods, anti-inflammatories, analgesics, anti-neoplastic agents or bronchodilators.

7. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding Claims~~, wherein said active principle is a steroid selected from the group consisting of budesonide, testosterone, progesterone, oestrogen, flunisolide, triamcinolone, beclomethasone, betamethasone, dexamethasone, fluticasone, methyl-prednisolone, prednisone and hydrocortisone.

8. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in one of Claim 7, wherein the active principle is beclomethasone dipropionate (BDP).

9. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in Claim 6, wherein said active principle is a bronchodilator selected from the compounds ephedrine, adrenaline, fenoterol, formoterol, isoprenaline, metaproterenol, phenylephrine, phenylpropanolamine, perbuterol, reproterol, rimeterol, salbutamol, salmeterol, formorterol, terbutaline, isoetharine, tulobuterol, orciprenaline or (-)-4-amino-3,5-dichloro- α[[[6-[2-(pyridinyl)ethoxy}hexyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol.

10. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in Claim 9, wherein said active principle is salbutamol sulphate.

11. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the spraying step is carried out by atomising said composition in the form of droplets.

12. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in claim 1 ~~the preceding Claim~~, wherein atomisation is carried out using pneumatic means, ultrasonic means, pressurized means, nozzle means, rotary atomiser means, blowing means, high rotational generators, spraying devices, gauge needles or a hair-dryer.

13. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in claim 1 ~~the preceding Claim~~, wherein the atomization ~~atomisation~~ gas is selected from the group consisting of carbon dioxide, nitrogen, argon, oxygen, air and mixtures thereof.

14. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding Claims~~, wherein the cooling step is carried out by means of a gas selected from the group consisting of liquid hydrogen, liquid nitrogen, liquid oxygen.

15. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding Claims~~, wherein furthermore said particles are dried using blowing means, oven, vacuum oven, fluid bed dryer.

16. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~. as claimed in claim 15, wherein the drying step comprises the evaporation of said at least one expansion agent.

17. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in claim 15, wherein the drying step comprises the lyophilisation of the particles.

18. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding Claims~~, wherein the composition comprises a mixture of acetone and water in a ratio of 80:20 volume/volume.

19. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding Claims~~, wherein the composition further comprises at least one additional excipient.

20. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein said at least one additional excipient is a polymer compound permitting the density to be altered and the action of said at least one active principle to be slowed, controlled or targeted.

21. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ as claimed in claim 19, wherein said at least one additional excipient is selected from the following compounds: cyclodextrins, sodium caseinate, DPPC, serum albumin, cellulose acetate phthalate, phospholipids, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose phthalate, ethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose, methyl cellulose, cellulose acetate butyrate, poloxamer, poly(lactic acid), poly(lactic glycolic acid), poly(lactide), poly(glycolide), poly(lactide-coglycolide), poly(p-dioxanone), poly(caprolactone), polycarbon, polyamide, polyanhydride, poly(alkylene alkylate), polyamino acid,

polyhydroxyalkanoates, polypropylenefumarates, polyorthoester, polyacetal, polyacrylamide, polycyanoacrylate, polyalkylcyanoacrylates, polymethapolyphosphate ester, polyphosphazene, polyurethane, polyacrylate, polymethacrylate, poly(methyl methacrylate), poly(hydroxy ethyl methacrylate-co methyl methacrylate, carbopol 934, ethylene-vinyl acetate and other substituted acyl cellulose acetates ~~and derivatives thereof~~, polystyrene, polyvinyl alcohol, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, polyvinyl chloride, polyvinyl fluoride, poly(vinyl imidazole), chlorosulphonated polyolefin, polyethylene, polyethylene glycol, polypropylene, polyethylene oxide, copolymer and blends thereof, cellulose acetate phthalate (CAP), ~~and~~ hydroxypropyl cellulose acetate phthalate, polymeric medicines or genetically engineered polymers.

22. (currently amended) Hollow microporous particles produced by the method as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 to 21~~, having particles measuring between 0.1 µm and 2000 µm and whose density is in the range from 0.4 g/cm$^3$ to 0.0001 g/cm$^3$.

23. (currently amended) A medicine ~~Medicine~~, intended to be administered by inhalation, having the microporous particles as claimed in claim 22.

24. (currently amended) Use of hollow microporous particles ~~as claimed in Claim 22~~ in the production of a medicine for treating respiratory diseases, wherein the particles have been produced by a method characterized in that:

a composition is provided in a given form comprising at least one active principle and at least one expansion agent having an expansion coefficient greater than 5% and which has a volume after cooling below the solidification point which is greater than the volume before cooling,

said composition is cooled at a temperature below the solidification point of said at least one expansion agent so as to increase the volume of the given form and to create fractures in the surface and/or in all of said given form, thereby enabling the structure of the hollow micro-porous particle to be obtained,

all or part of said at least one expansion agent is removed.

25. (currently amended) An inhalation ~~Inhalation~~ device having the hollow microporous particles obtained by the method as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 to 21~~.